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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

ORTIZ CRIADO, JORGE L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2655

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/058,029	Applicant(s) SASAKI, YOSHIYUKI	
	Examiner Jorge L Ortiz-Criado	Art Unit 2655	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>01/02/05/03/07/03</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because they are drawn to “a computer program”. Since a program is merely a set of instructions capable of being executed by a computer, the program itself is not a process. A program, without the computer readable medium needed to realize the program’s functionality, is nonstatutory functional descriptive material. The Examiner suggest changing the preamble to “i.e. A readable medium having a program for... instruction...” See MPEP 2106.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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4. Claim 1, 8, 9, and 16 -18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or Hashimoto U.S. patent No. 6,172,955.

Regarding claim 1 and 18, Hashimoto discloses a method and **“computer program”**(See col. 12, lines 3-12), for storing data in recording media using an information storage apparatus which has a plurality of rotation modes of said recording media, comprising (See col. 6, lines 12-62; Figure 1 ref# 5 “rotation control system”):

a step of formatting said recording media in **“a first rotation mode”**/(any rotation mode/speed/velocity which the rotation control system provides to rotates the disk) (See col. 8, lines 20-57; Fig.5; Steps S12)

a step of stopping, in response to a request for storing data in said recording media, formatting of said recording media (See col. 8, lines 20-57; Fig. 5, steps S14);

a step of setting said recording media in a second rotation mode that is “suitable” for storing data in said recording media (See col. 6, lines 12-62; Figure 1 ref# 5 “rotation control system, controls the rotation of the disk at any rotation mode/speed/velocity **at the time of** recording/reproducing, inherently has to be suitable for recording/reproducing/ etc... in order to perform these processes of recording/reproducing/ etc...”):

a step of storing data in said recording media in said second rotation mode (See col. 8, lines 20-57; Fig. 5, steps S14)

a step of setting, in response to an end of storing data in said recording media, said recording media in said first rotation mode (stopping recording and stop rotation at the suitable rotation mode for recording and start rotating again to perform formatting at the time of

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resuming; “**a first rotation mode**”/(any rotation mode/speed/velocity which the rotation control system provides to rotates the disk and

a step of resuming of formatting said recording media in said “**first rotation mode**” (See col. 8, lines 20-57; Fig. 5, steps S15)

(Note: first rotation mode and second rotation mode as claimed could be the same and are not limited to any specific or no difference is made between the first rotation mode or the second mode; the first rotation mode might be suitable for recording as well, since either the first or the second rotation might be any rotation mode/speed/velocity etc., the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims)

Regarding 8 and 16, Hashimoto discloses wherein said recording media is a rewritable optical disc (See col. 6, lines 3-5)

Regarding claims 9 and 17, Apparatus claims 9 and 17 are drawn to the apparatus of performing the corresponding method claimed in claim 1. Therefore apparatus claims 9 and 17 correspond to method claim 9 and are rejected for the same reasons of anticipation as used above.

5. Claims 2 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto U.S. patent No. 6,172,955 in view of Horie J.P. Publication No. 2000-011380.

Hashimoto discloses all the limitations based on claim 1 and 9, as outlined above.

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Hashimoto fails to disclose wherein said recording media formatted in said first rotation mode is rotated at a maximum rotating speed at which said information storage apparatus can store data in said recording media.

However this feature is well known in the art as evidenced by Horie, which discloses an information storage apparatus and method for storing data in recording media using an information storage apparatus, which has a plurality of rotation modes of said recording media comprising a controller which formats said recording media in a first rotation mode and sets the recording media in a second rotation mode that is suitable for storing data, stores data in said recording media in said second rotation mode and wherein said recording media formatted in said first rotation mode is rotated at a maximum rotating speed at which said information storage apparatus can store data in said recording media (See detailed description [0018]-[0029]; [0036]-[0038]; [0041]-[0042])

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to rotate the medium at a maximum rotating speed at which said information storage apparatus can store data in said recording media in order to reduce amount of time that it takes to format the recording media, as suggested by Horie.

6. Claims 3-4, and 11-12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto U.S. patent No. 6,172,955 in view of Shirane J.P. Publication No. 07-262692.

Regarding claim 3 and 11, Hashimoto discloses all the limitations based on claim 1 and 9, as outlined above.

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Hashimoto fails to disclose wherein said recording media formatted in said first rotation mode is a constant linear velocity mode.

However, this feature is well known in the art as evidenced by Shirane, which discloses formatting a disk at a constant linear velocity to be reproduced in a storage apparatus, which has a plurality of rotation modes (See detailed description [0016]; [0021]-[0031]; [0082])

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to format the recording media at a first rotation mode of constant linear velocity in order to increase the storage capacity of the recording media, as suggested by Shirane.

Regarding claim 11 and 12, Hashimoto discloses all the limitations based on claim 1 and 9, as outlined above.

Hashimoto fails to disclose wherein said recording media formatted in said first rotation is a zone constant linear velocity mode.

However, this feature is well known in the art as evidenced by Shirane, which discloses formatting a disk at a zone constant linear velocity to be reproduced in a storage apparatus, which has a plurality of rotation modes (See detailed description [0016]; [0021]-[0031]; [0082]).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to format the recording media at a first rotation mode of zone constant linear velocity in order to increase the storage capacity of the recording media and at the same time obtain a high speed access, as suggested by Shirane.

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7. Claims 5-7 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto U.S. patent No. 6,172,955 in view of Seamons et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,924,327.

Hashimoto discloses all the limitations based on claim 1 and 9 as outlined above.

Hashimoto further discloses a step in response to an end of storing data in said recording media, wherein said step of resuming of formatting said recording media in **“said second rotation/first rotation”**(first mode equals second mode;see Note above in claim 1) mode (See col. 8, lines 20-57; Fig. 5, steps S15)

Hashimoto does not expressly disclose a step of measuring time and the step of resuming formatting is not performed until a predetermined period of time passes.

However, this feature is well known in the art as evidenced by Seamons et al., which discloses a method and an apparatus to perform the method for storing data in recording media using an information storage apparatus including a step of formatting said recording media; a step of stopping, in response to a request for storing data in said recording media, formatting of said recording media; a step of storing data in said recording media; a step of setting, in response to an end of storing data in said recording media, said recording media in said rotation mode; and a step of resuming of formatting said recording media. (See col. 5, lines 26-46)

(as in claims 5 and 13) a step of measuring time, in response to an end of storing data in said recording media, wherein said step of resuming of formatting said recording media is not performed until a predetermined period of time passes (See col. 5, lines 36-45)

(as in claims 6 and 14) a step of measuring time, in response to an end of storing data in said recording media, wherein formatting said recording media is resumed in before a predetermined period of time passes (See col. 5, lines 45-60)

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to resume formatting after a predetermined period of time as taught by Seamons et al., because waiting the period of time allows the system to process addition recording requests.

Furthermore, it would have been obvious to resume formatting before the predetermined period of time passes as taught by Seamons et al., because doing so allows the apparatus to start formatting if no formatted space is available for storing data.

Regarding claim 7 and 15, the combination of Hashimoto with Seamons et al., would show wherein after said predetermined period of time passes, said recording media is set in said first rotation mode (Still rotating at second rotation mode to perform formatting) **“said second rotation/first rotation”**(If first mode equals second mode see Note above in claim 1)

resuming of formatting said recording media in said **“first rotation mode”** (See Hashimoto col. 8, lines 20-57; Fig. 5, steps S15)

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jorge L Ortiz-Criado whose telephone number is (703) 305-8323. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thu.(8:30 am - 6:00 pm), Alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doris H To can be reached on (703) 305-4827. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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